

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended): A method for providing electronic books displayed on small portable viewers, comprising:

receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;

converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a ~~standard~~ compressed video format;

storing the plurality of electronic books in the ~~standard~~ compressed video format; and
~~selectively~~ providing the electronic books to subscribers in the ~~standard~~ compressed video format via the small portable viewers.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 10 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended): The method of claim ~~12~~ 10 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 10, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.

15. (currently amended): The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with the small portable viewers for providing the electronic books.

16. (currently amended): The method of claim 10, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the small portable viewers.

17. (currently amended): The method of claim 15, further including displaying a menu on the small portable viewers providing indications of the electronic books.

18. (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.

19. (previously presented): The method of claim 18 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.

20. (currently amended): An apparatus for providing electronic books, comprising:

an operations center for electronically communicating with small portable viewers for providing electronic books, wherein the operations center executes a method comprising:

receiving text material for a plurality of electronic books in a plurality of formats;

converting the text material in the plurality of formats to a ~~standard~~ compressed video format;

storing the plurality of electronic books in the ~~standard~~ compressed video format; and

~~selectively~~ providing the electronic books to subscribers in the ~~standard~~ compressed video format via the small portable viewers.

21. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the receiving step includes receiving the electronic books in a plurality of digital formats.

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim ~~22~~ 20 wherein the converting step includes converting the text material into a format according to the MPEG standard.

24. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 20, further including grouping the text material by titles of the corresponding electronic books.

25. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with the small portable viewers for providing the electronic books.

26. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 20, further including permitting subscribers to purchase the electronic books via the small portable viewers.

27. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 25, further including displaying a menu on the small portable viewers providing indications of the electronic books.

28. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 27, further including generating a textual signal for providing the text material and a menu signal for providing the menu.

29. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the generating step includes generating a composite signal including the textual signal and the menu signal.